

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph:

[0030] Returning to the process illustrated in Figure 5, after sending the message, at step 503 the volume security control software 101 will request the disk array 109 to change the configuration for volume security. This is carried out by the volume security control software [[503]] 101 sending a request message to the security management program 103 found in the disk array 109. This message requests changes in the LUN (or volume) security configuration.

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] Following the disk array device operation of step 504, the host device carries out step 505. In this step the cluster management 102 software maintains control of the disk resources to verify that no inconsistent status has occurred. This is typically carried out using a "heartbeat" communication protocol. As shown by step 506 in Figure 5, if the heartbeat is lost, or if an inconsistent status is detected, then the cluster management software 102 will reset the system and restart the negotiation process to allocate disk resources to hosts.